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**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

New U.S. Patent Application

Title: DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND PROCESSING METHOD AND  
MEDIUM THEREFOR

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Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

1. Application - 72 pages, including 5 independent claims and 36 claims total (as amended).
2. Drawings - 27 sheets of FORMAL drawings containing 38 figures.
3. Preliminary Amendment.
4. Certified copy of Japanese Application Nos. 9-240029 and 10-032710, filed September 4, 1997 and February 16, 1998 respectively.

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This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.53(f). Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the Declaration and paying the filing fee of \$1576.00. Please do not charge the filing fee to our Deposit Account without our authorization.

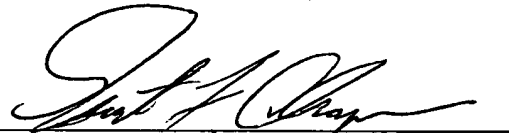
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 during the pendency of this application to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Applicants claim the right to priority based on Japanese Application Nos. 9-240029 and 10-032710, filed September 4, 1997 and February 16, 1998, respectively.

Please accord this application a serial number and filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
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By   
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05905.0056/pa  
Enclosures

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